

A

# REVIEW

## OF THE

# STATE

## OF THE

# ENGLISH NATION.

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Tuesday, February 25. 1706.

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I Furnish'd you last Paper with a modern Prophecy, relating to the Affairs abroad ; I shall not carry my Explications upon that Head very far ; he that could foretell the Revolutions in *Spain* so long ago, I must confess, says enough to amuse me ; I do not say, I put any great Strefs on the Matter of Prophecies, but let every Man make his Observations for himself.

What I draw from this Affair, lies this Way ; the gathering Forces, the Remaining in the Bowels of the Empire with his Army, the Basiness between the *Saxons* and the *Swede* from the most imbittered and exasperated Animosities, the Nakedness of the Empire, the Marching of the Duke of *Bavaria*, and the other concurring Circumstances on that side the World, cannot but

fill the Expectations of considering People, with something more than common.

Those Clouds must have some Thunder in them, and the gathering Storm must break somewhere ; the King of *Sweden* has for some Years amus'd the World with his Measures, and acted in several things, Politically as Powerfully ; this is not the first Step which has given Uneasiness to *Europe* from that Side.

If he neither interests himself on the Party of *France*, *Hungaria*, nor *Bavaria*, I see nothing we have to fear from him ; but if that was secure, I can see no Reason, why his Army should lie there, why he does not decamp, and march into *Poland* again, or home-wards.

There must be something more in it, than yet discovers it self ; and to me it seems pro-

probable to be in' Behalf of the Duke of *Bavaria*, in whose Exile and Deprivation some of the Princes of the Empire seem willing to concern themselves, at least they object against the severe Method, which has been taken with him—If this be the Fact, I confess, the Execution is easie, and not to be oppos'd, unless the Emperor recall his Troops out of *Italy* for that Work; and what the Consequence of that will be, any one may discover.

I could wish now, in the Prospect of these Affairs, the Duke of *Bavaria* had been Master of the same Discretion, as the Duke of *Saxony* his Neighbour, has been; who knew, when it was time to throw up a lost Game, and comply'd with the Necessity of his Affairs; that listen'd to the Cries of his Subjects, and sav'd them from Destruction, by timely complying with the Enemy, he could not resist: Had he done this, the Danger of *Europe* had long since been over on that side, and *France* had receiv'd a greater Blow by it, than at the Battle at *Blenheim*.

And now methinks, there could not be a greater Stab given to the *French* Affairs in *Europe*, than to have the Duke of *Bavaria* won off from their Interest, tho' it were at the Price of restoring to him his ruin'd Country, and receiving him again into the Empire; which Offers, he must be doubly distracted, if he refused.

Such a Stroke as that, struck just now at the Beginning of this new Campaign, would be a second *Ramellies*, and crown the War with such an Assurance of Success, that hardly the *Swede* himself could turn the Scale against us.

Nor can I think the *Bavarian* could be so weak a Prince to reject an Offer so generous, if made to him the right Way; if he did, he should pass for all the World for one of those mad Men, who are past Hopes, and be turn'd among the incurable of the World, of whom it is to be said, they can be never brought to be good for any thing to others, nor to themselves neither: But of this hereafter.

## MISCELLANEA.

I Began in my last to enter closely into the Forms of our Commerce, in order to show how and by what Methods, it has arriv'd to that Height, in which it now stands; and not to make long Histories of what may be better abridg'd, I must be allow'd to give this great Matter in Minia-ture.

Foreign Trade encourag'd the Manufactures at first, and the Merchants in Queen *Elizabeth's* Time launching out into great Exportations, the Demand for Goods encreased, and encourag'd their making in *England*.

But every Kind of Manufacture was not made in every Place in the Kingdom—The Nature of the several Counties, the Wool, the Manner of working, and Way of Living, varied; and accordingly varied the Produce.

Again, several of our Manufactures were introduced by the Concourse of Refugee Strangers, who fled for their Religion, and were entertain'd at that time by the Queen; and as the low Countries were then the Seat of Industry, and the Head of all the Manufactures in those Parts of *Europe*, especially having our Wool, the Staple of which was at *Antwerp*; so in Respect to what Part of the Country they came from, and what Part they came to, they settled in the respective Places, the several Manufactures they were bred to.

Thus the *Dutch*, that fled to *Yarmouth* and *Norwich*, fell to making Stuffs and Stockings, as they had done before at *Harlem*; those that landed at *Ipswich* and *Harwich* spread themselves to *Sudbury*, *Bosbin*, *Melford*, *Brainree* and *Colchester*, and set all those Towns and the adjacent Countries to work



work on Sayes, Perpetuanas and Bayes; the Walloons, that came from *Flanders*, landed at *Sandwich*, and *Dover*, and they fell to work on Silks, as they had made them at *Lille*, *Walloon*, *Flanders*, and those Parts; and in all the several Towns where these began, the true born *English* Families of their Posterity retain the Names, and some the very Customs of their Ancestors.

The like was practis'd in other Parts, as the Serges at *Exeter*, Linly-Woolfies at *Kidderminster*, knit Caps at *Monmouth*, now at *Beaudly*, the Cotton Wares in *Lancashire*, coarse Cloths in *Yorkshire*, and the like.

Now as these Manufactures encreased, and the People grew wealthy, so Trade encourag'd them to stay at home, and not seek desperate Adventures in remote Countries, and they became prodigiously numerous; and not so only, but where these Manufactures settled, there the Crowds of poor People follow'd, to reap the Benefit of constant Employ.

Thus Towns grew up, Countries grew populous, and Trade brought People; so People brought Trade, the Confluence of Inhabitants made great Markets, and encreased the Consumption of Provisions, and that in course employ'd the Lands, enriched the Farmers, and rais'd the Value of Lands, and that rais'd the Gentry.

The Riches of the Gentry and of the Farmers encreased Trade again, and this fill'd the Country Towns with substantial Shop-keepers, to supply Household Stuff, Apparel, Grocery and Mercey for common Use; and thus Trade begot Trade by a natural Circulation.

As the Manufactures were thus intently apply'd to in the several Parts of the Kingdom, so the great Center, Staple, Emporium, or call it what you will, for the Vent of these Goods, was the City of *London*.

Hither every Sort of Goods was sent, and here Merchants, Factors and Wholesale-men taking them off in vast Quantities, supply'd all the Markets in the World. And not only that, but by a happy home Circulation, the several Parts of *England* applying, as before, intently to the proper Manu-

facture before them and no other; the People among themselves always supply'd their other Occasions, with the Manufactures of the respective Counties from *London*.

Thus, if *Norwich* makes Stuffs and Stockings, they bought what broad Cloth, Serges, Cotton Ware, &c. from *London*; if *Yorkshire*, or *Wiltshire*, or *Gloucestershire* made Cloth, they buy their Stockings, Stuffs, &c. from *London*, and so of the rest. And every Town sends up their proper Work to *London*.

This is what I call the Circulation of Trade, and on this, many thousands of Families subsist, Horses and Lands employ'd, and Trades set to Work.

This is the thing, I say, the projected Settlement of the Poor by employing them in every respective Parish, will destroy; for if every Town or Parish shall set to work to make every Sort of Goods they shall use, where will be the Circulation? What need will there be to carry from Town to Town, from the Country to the City; and about into the Country again, all this will be at an End? The Carriers must lay down, the Horses be sold, the Inn-keepers shut up, the Lands be unemploy'd, and innumerable Families be left to seek new Fortunes in the World.

This is the Foundation of this Discourse from a just Apprehension of the Mischief, all levelling Designs upon our Manufactures must procure in the Nation.

I know, it will be answer'd, the Poor must not be starv'd, Employment for them is the only Charity, and what must be else done with them? To this I answer; I allow, the Poor must be employ'd, and setting them to Work is the best Charity. And as I have formerly publish'd a Book on this Subject, Entitled, *Giving Alms no Charity*, &c. to which I refer, I need say the less to this Head: But as the Occasion is renew'd, tho' that Book be asleep, I crave leave to repeat some Part of what I then publish'd, and to go on with this Subject in my next.

Lately Publish'd,

**W**HEREAS, the Author of this Paper has for some time been out of England, and consequently is suppos'd not near enough to his Affairs, to receive such Letters as are wanted to be convey'd to him; These are to give Notice, that any Letters left as usual for him at Mr. Matthews will carefully be sent to him, and such Answers as are proper be return'd by him in a Weeks time, either in this Paper or as shall be Directed.

Also that all such serious or diverting Subjects, whether Questions or otherwise, as any of the Ingenious Readers are pleas'd to send as formerly, shall be spoken to as usual, in the best manner the Author can do it, which he hopes shall be as acceptable as before.

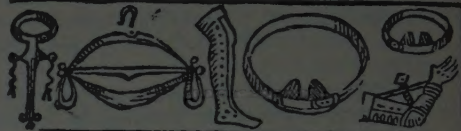
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